

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 01096 121853Z

22

ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 DOTE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4588

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OTRA, WTO, SP

SUBJECT: WTO: PROSPECTS FOR FURTHER RATIFICATIONS

1. SEPTEL ON WTO MEMBERSHIP AND CONTRIBUTIONS DISCUSSES PRESENT STATUS OF RATIFICATIONS. SECRETARY GENERAL LONATI ALSO RAN OVER WITH US PROSPECTS AS HE SEES THEM FOR FURTHER RATIFICATIONS. WITH DEPOSIT OF RATIFICATIONS BY USSR AND EE STATES, PRESENT NON-MEMBERS ARE MAINLY WEO STATES.

2. LONATI SAID THAT ACCORDING TO HIS SOUNDINGS BELGIUM, NETHERLANDS AND FINLAND WILL RATIFY SOON. THREE ITALIAN MINISTRIES CONCERNED HAVE REACHED AGREEMENT TO SEEK RATIFICATION AND PLAN TO ACCELERATE PROCESS TO EXTENT DOMESTIC POLITICAL SITUATION WILL PERMIT. JAPANESE AMBASSADOR CALLED ON LONATI TO CONVEY GOJ INTENTION TO RATIFY ONCE PARLIAMENTARY PROCESS CAN BE COMPLETED. DENMARK, NORWAY AND SWEDEN APPARENTLY HAVE TAKEN DECISION IN COMMON NOT TO RATIFY. LONATI EXPECTS IRELAND, AUSTRIA AND NEW ZEALAND ARE LOOKING TO UK BEFORE ACTING, AND BELIEVES UK STILL UNDECIDED BECAUSE OF AVERSION OF BRITISH TRAVEL AUTHORITY TO TREATING TOURISM MATTERS ON INTER-GOVERNMENTAL PLAIN.

3. CANADA HAS INFORMED LONATI THAT FOR REASONS OF GOVERNMENT WIDE FINANCIAL RESTRICTIONS CANADA CANNOT CONSIDER WTO MEMBERSHIP

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PAGE 02 MADRID 01096 121853Z

BEFORE 1977. THIS IS REGRETTABLE IN VIEW OF LEADERSHIP CANADA

HAS PROVIDED DURING TRANSITION PERIOD, ESPECIALLY WITH RESPECT TO BUDGETARY MATTERS, AND DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO INQUIRE FURTHER INTO CANADIAN INTENTIONS.

4. PRC AMBASSADOR IN MADRID HAS APPROACHED LONATI, AND HAD HIM TO LUNCH, TO DISCUSS WTO AFFAIRS BUT HAS OFFERED NO COMMENT ON POSSIBILITY OF PRC JOINING ORGANIZATION.

5. WHILE THERE HAS BEEN NO NORTH KOREAN CONTACT ROK REPRESENTATIVES HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH LONATI WITH AN EYE TO THIS.
STABLER

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